

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (**Currently Amended**): A voice recognition apparatus comprising:

a storage having a stored vocabulary of words to be recognized for voice control of a plurality of programs and other files, ~~wherein each of the plurality of programs and other files is assigned a word of the vocabulary as a name~~; and

a file directory configured to store a link to each program and file of the plurality of programs and other files, each link comprising a shortcut pointer to a corresponding one of the plurality of programs and other files, each link having a name separate from the name of that link's corresponding program or other file such that the name of each link can be modified independent of the name of that link's corresponding program or other file, wherein the names of the links form a first active partial vocabulary of the voice recognition apparatus.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the names of the links are formed by voice commands, and the links define shortcuts to application programs.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the names of the links are formed by voice commands, and wherein the links define shortcuts to files selected from a group consisting of text documents, voice documents, music files, and video files.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the file directory contains a plurality of sub-directories in at least one subordinate hierarchy level, wherein names of the plurality of sub-directories together with the names of the links form a first active partial vocabulary of the voice recognition apparatus lower down the hierarchy.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein each program and file of the plurality of programs and other files is assigned from at least one of the plurality of sub-directories a voice command comprising multiple connected parts that contain the names of the links from the

file directory and the at least one of the plurality of sub-directories leading to the program or file.

Claim 15 (**Currently Amended**): A voice recognition method comprising:

providing a voice recognition apparatus including a storage having a stored vocabulary of words to be recognized for voice control of a plurality of programs and other files, ~~wherein each of the plurality of programs and other files is assigned a word of the vocabulary as a name~~, and a file directory configured to store a link to each program and file of the plurality of programs and other files, each link comprising a shortcut pointer to a corresponding one of the plurality of programs and other files, each link having a name separate from the name of that link's corresponding program or other file such that the name of each link can be modified independent of the name of that link's corresponding program or other file, wherein the names of the links form a first active partial vocabulary of the voice recognition apparatus; and

generating a current vocabulary containing at least the names of the links from the file directory when a voice recognizer program configured to perform voice recognition is started.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 15, further comprising:

effecting administration of the vocabulary by managing the file directory and at least one sub-directory without an additional vocabulary management program.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 16, further comprising:

creating sub-directories below the file directory in at least one subordinate hierarchy level in order to edit voice commands having multiple connected parts; and

recognizing the voice commands having multiple connected parts in a multi-stage recognition process, wherein in the course of recognizing a switch is made from a first active partial vocabulary into an at least second active partial vocabulary.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

recording new words in the vocabulary by effecting a program call via a context menu for a relevant program or file of the plurality of programs and other files.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

removing words from the vocabulary by effecting a program call via a context menu for a relevant program or file of the plurality of programs and other files.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

recording new words in the vocabulary by effecting a "drag'n'drop" procedure.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

removing words from the vocabulary by effecting a "drag'n'drop" procedure.

Claim 22 (**New**): The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein each link comprises a WINDOWS shortcut.

Claim 23 (**New**): The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, wherein each link comprises a WINDOWS shortcut